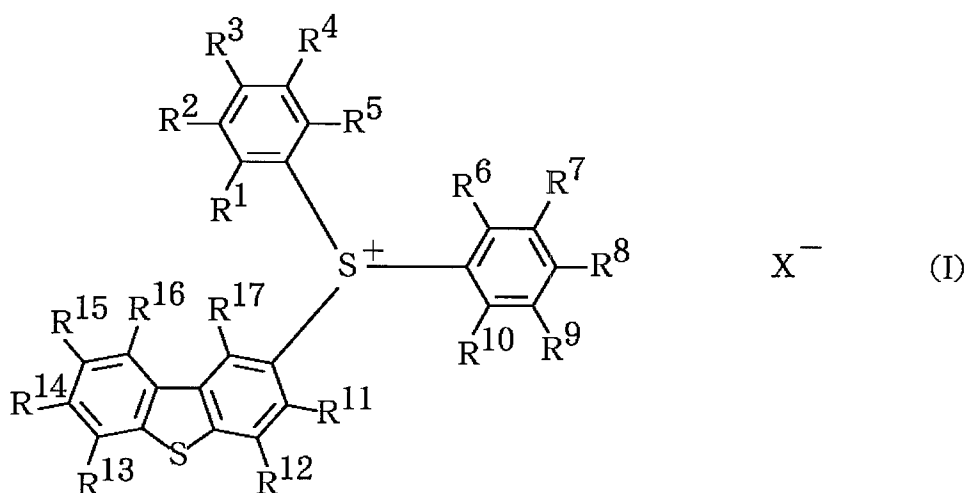


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) An aromatic sulfonium salt compound expressed by a general formula (I),

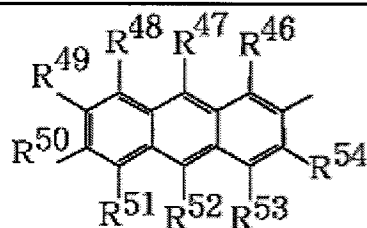
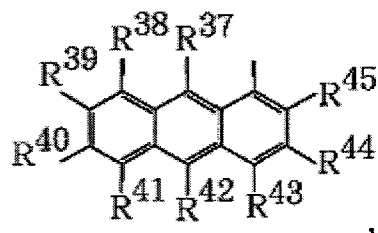
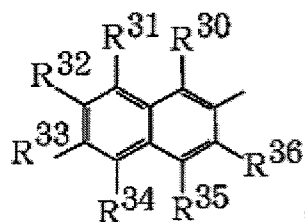
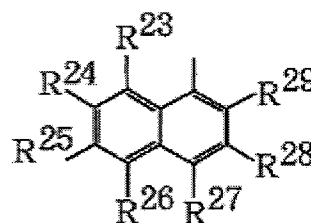
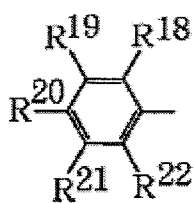


wherein, R^1 to R^{17} are identical or different, ~~respectively~~ **and are** a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, phenoxy, ester, aryl, thioether, thiocarbonyl, sulfinyl, sulfonyl, amino, amide, imide, nitrile, phosphino, phospho, phosphoryl and fluoroalkyl groups of 1-8 carbon atoms,

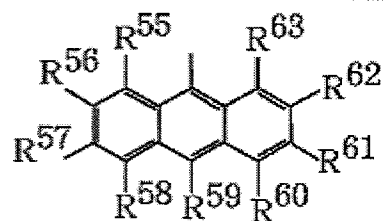
wherein the moieties other than the functional groups of these groups can be saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon, unsaturated aliphatic hydrocarbon, alicyclic hydrocarbon, carbocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon or heterocyclic aromatic hydrocarbon of 1-12 carbon atoms, and R^5 and R^6 can be condensed together with to form a covalent bond, provided that R^1 to R^5 are not all hydrogen at the same time, and that R^6 to R^{10} are not all hydrogen at the same time, X is the same described above, **and**

wherein at least one of R^1 to R^{17} is acyl group having of the formula R-CO- or Ar-CO-, where

Ar is



or



and R is straight or branched alkyl group, or alicyclic hydrocarbon group, and R¹⁸ to R⁶³ are identical or different, respectively hydrogen, halogen, hydroxyl, alkyl or alkoxy.

19. (Previously Presented) A photo-acid generator comprising an aromatic sulfonium salt compound of Claim 18.

20. (Previously Presented) A photo-polymerizable composition comprising (1) cationically polymerizing organic substances and (2) of Claim 19 as an energy beam sensitive cationically polymerizing initiator, as essential components.

21. (Previously Presented) An ultraviolet curing ink composition which comprises the photo-polymerizable composition of Claim 18.

22. (Previously Presented) An ultraviolet curing ink composition for wrapping material of foods which comprises the photo-polymerizable composition of Claim 18.

23. (Previously Presented) An wrapping material of foods printed by the ultraviolet curing ink composition or the ultraviolet curing ink composition for wrapping material of foods of Claim 18 .

24. (Previously Presented) The photo-polymerizable composition of claim 20, which additionally comprises (3) radically polymerizing organic substance and (4) energy beam sensitive radical polymerizing initiator, as essential components.

25. (Previously Presented) The photo-polymerizable composition of claim 20, wherein at least one among the (1) cationically polymerizing organic substance is an organic compound having one or more epoxy group in a molecule.

26. (Previously Presented) The photo-polymerizable composition of claim 20, which comprises a compound having a cyclohexenoxide structure in a molecule at the content of 30% by weight or more based on the(1) cationically polymerizing organic substance.

27. (Previously Presented) The photo-polymerizable composition of claim 24, which comprises a compound having (meth)acrylic group in a molecule at the content of 50% by weight or more based on the(3) radically polymerizing organic substance.